

Local

BAKER COUNTY CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1

■ **Baker County Board of Commissioners:** 9 a.m., Courthouse, 1995 Third St.

MONDAY, APRIL 6

■ **Haines Fire Protection District Board:** 7 p.m. at the Haines Library.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8

■ **Baker County Board of Commissioners:** 9 a.m., Courthouse, 1995 Third St.

MONDAY, APRIL 13

■ **Medical Springs Rural Fire Protection District Board:** 7 p.m. at the Pondosa Station.

TURNING BACK THE PAGES

50 YEARS AGO from the Democrat-Herald March 27, 1970

Bids for construction of the new Baker County Library were opened Thursday night at the Baker County Courthouse.

Low bid was submitted by Forster Construction Company Inc. of Salem, whose bid was \$342,890.

25 YEARS AGO from the Baker City Herald March 27, 1995

Step Forward Activities Inc. has reached an agreement for 950,000 packages with Kinley Marketing of Cincinnati Ohio. Gene Button, Step Forward executive director, said the new contract will mean an estimated \$70,000 to \$80,000 added to Step Forward's revenue.

10 YEARS AGO from the Baker City Herald March 26, 2010

Baker City's Quail Ridge Golf Course is still dormant, in the horticultural sense.

But local golfers, undeterred by drab brown fairways and bare trees, came out of hibernation almost a month ago.

ONE YEAR AGO from the Baker City Herald March 27, 2019

In a special meeting Tuesday evening, the Baker City Council approved a grant application that would provide further funding to build an all-abilities playground in Baker City.

This comes less than a week after the city won the Moda Health Assist month-long voting contest, which will award Baker City roughly \$35,000.

The money awarded from Moda is equal to \$20 for every assist the Portland Trail Blazers make this season.

The grant application the council approved is from the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department. If the city receives the grant it could get up to \$280,000 as long as it has a 40-percent match. Past estimates had put the cost at about \$70,000.

The Moda assist money could be used as matching funds for the grant if needed. The city is also looking into other sources of funding

The council had cancelled its regular meeting, which would have been Tuesday, because of a light agenda, but scheduled the special meeting after winning the Moda contest. The grant application couldn't wait until the next regular meeting because the grant's application deadline is April 1 and the City Council won't meet again until April 9.

OREGON LOTTERY

MEGABUCKS, March 23

7 — 8 — 21 — 23 — 37 — 40
Next jackpot: \$1 million

MEGA MILLIONS, March 24

2 — 8 — 16 — 18 — 31 Mega 14
Next jackpot: \$107 million

WIN FOR LIFE, March 23

47 — 48 — 52 — 75

PICK 4, March 24

• 1 p.m.: 5 — 6 — 8 — 4
• 4 p.m.: 9 — 2 — 1 — 7
• 7 p.m.: 5 — 4 — 9 — 5
• 10 p.m.: 9 — 5 — 0 — 5

LUCKY LINES, March 24

2-8-9-14-19-22-27-29
Next jackpot: \$20,000

SENIOR MENUS

- **FRIDAY:** Ham and beans, mixed vegetables, cornbread, fruit ambrosia, cookie
- **MONDAY (March 30):** Beef tip over mashed potatoes, broccoli-blend vegetables, biscuit, cottage cheese with fruit, peach crisp
- **TUESDAY (March 31):** Pork pot roast, parslied red potatoes, green beans, roll, green salad, cheesecake

Public luncheon at the Senior Center, 2810 Cedar St., 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; \$4.50 donation (60 and older), \$6.75 for those under 60. Meals will be for takeout during the coronavirus crisis; no dining in the Senior Center.

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Health Department discusses testing protocol for coronavirus

A Tuesday press release from Baker County includes information from the Health Department regarding testing for the coronavirus.

According to health officials, testing is being conducted locally by medical providers for those who meet testing criteria. Depending upon when a test is performed and which lab is used, it takes an average of seven days to receive test results.

Testing is available through the Oregon State Public Health Laboratory as well as a number of commercial labs.

People with a fever, cough, or difficulty breathing who meet the following criteria might qualify for testing from a commercial laboratory:

- Healthcare workers
- Patients with worsening symptoms
- Patients older than 60 years of age
- Patients with underlying medical conditions, including, but not limited to hypertension, diabetes, heart disease, lung disease, and immunocompromising conditions
- Pregnant women

"We need to save the limited resources for the most critically ill of our population."

— **Alicia Hills, nursing supervisor, Baker County Health Department**

• Patients who had contact with a suspected or lab-confirmed COVID-19 patient, or who traveled from an affected geographic area, within 14 days of their symptom onset

Any person meeting the criteria will need to be assessed by a medical provider who will decide if they need to be tested. Influenza is still circulating in our area and flu testing is recommended prior to testing for COVID-19. The state of Oregon requires all Oregon laboratories, and asks out-of-state reference laboratories, to report both positive and negative test results, so the Oregon Health Authority can calculate percentages of positives in various settings and among various demographic groups.

As of Wednesday, Baker County had

reported six people being tested for the virus — all were negative.

Alicia Hills, nursing supervisor at the Baker County Health Department, advises, "We are asking that people who are not ill enough to seek medical attention stay home and self-quarantine. If someone is sick enough to need medical services, please call prior to arriving at the clinic or the emergency room to be assessed and get instructions on how to enter the facility. Due to limited testing supplies and personal protective equipment, we are asking people to not seek medical services unless it is necessary."

"We need to save the limited resources for the most critically ill of our population. Please help us by continuing to use good hand hygiene, covering your cough and sneezes, staying home when you are sick and adhering to social distancing recommendations. We all need to work together during this time to help slow the spread of this virus and decrease the risk to our most vulnerable population and conserve our limited resources."

POLICE

Continued from Page 1A

"Of course we're always trying to maintain that 6-foot distance," he said.

"Troopers have been told to use discretion and if possible only stop more serious violations (hazardous)," Fox wrote in his email to the Herald.

Both Duman and Ash emphasized that their officers will respond as usual to all emergencies, and to any situation that an officer believes constitutes a threat to the public.

For instance, Duman said if a driver is going 60 mph on Campbell Street, police will stop that vehicle.

"If officers observe a violation and feel it's warranted for safety they'll make the stop," he said.

But Ash said deputies are less likely, compared to normal circumstances, to stop a vehicle for a violation that doesn't affect safety — a license plate violation, for instance.

"If a deputy sees some-

"Things have quieted down, and frankly that's what I expect of this county. We have really good people here."

— **Baker County Sheriff Travis Ash**



thing that needs to be addressed, they're going to address it," Ash said.

Duman said officers have noticed a decline in traffic, which is to be expected since parents don't have to drop off and pick up kids from school, and some businesses are closed.

He said there has been no discernible increase in crimes that might be attributed to the effects of coronavirus restrictions.

The most recent shoplifting case, for instance, didn't involve food or toilet paper, but rather cosmetics.

"Everybody's been cooperative and understanding of the situation," Duman said.

Ash said the Sheriff's Office call volume has dipped.

"Things have quieted down, and frankly that's what I expect of this county," he said. "We have really good

people here."

Like Duman, Ash said he hasn't seen any evidence that people are committing crimes that take advantage of the unusual situation.

Duman said there is a potential, depending on how long restrictions remain, for an increase in domestic violence and substance abuse, as people try to deal with difficult circumstances including job layoffs.

He said police will be prepared to deal with any issues that arise.

Last week Ash instituted changes at the Baker County Jail, which is in the same building as the Sheriff's Office and the 9-1-1 Dispatch Center at 3410 K St.

His goal is to prevent the coronavirus from entering the building.

To that end, city, county and state police officers are

citing people for certain crimes rather than bringing them to the jail as they otherwise would.

People who are still being incarcerated include those accused of domestic violence, stalking, violating restraining orders and failing to appear in court.

Suspects in all Ballot Measure 11 crimes, which include murder, rape and robbery and carry mandatory minimum prison terms on conviction, also are required by law to be jailed.

As of Wednesday morning the jail, which can accommodate 45 inmates, had 19 in custody.

Ash has canceled all visitations at the jail, and inmate work crews outside the building have been curtailed for now.

Ash said that although he wouldn't even think of trying to predict the future, the sheriff's office will continue to focus on its core tasks.

"This is uncharted territory for us all," he said. "We're still going to do our jobs and enforce the law."

OBITUARY

Lois Zehrung

Baker City, 1927-2020

Lois Zehrung, 92, a longtime Baker City resident, died March 21, 2020, at her son's home in La Pine.

Her private family graveside service will take place March 30 at Mount Hope Cemetery in Baker City. A celebration of her life will be scheduled later.

Lois was born on Aug. 15, 1927, to Fred and Rebecka (Stelman) Collier at Sutherland, Nebraska, the fourth of eight children. The family moved to Baker around 1938 to find work.

Lois was married to Roy Howard and later to Van Zehrung.

Lois was a life member of the VFW Auxiliary out of Baker, Oregon, Post No. 3048. Lois was an avid bowler while in Baker and continued bowling up to her 90s after moving to Powell Butte. Lois enjoyed traveling and spending time with her many grandchildren.

Lois was preceded in death by her parents; husbands, Roy Howard and Van



Lois Zehrung

Zehrung; brothers, Bob, Rich, Don and Fred Jr.; one sister, Charline Yanken; and one grandchild.

Survivors include two brothers, Alfred Collier of Denver, Colorado, and Leo Collier of Baker City; her five children, Robert (Linda) Howard of Kalispell, Montana, Nancy (Glen) Cox of Powell Butte, Kenneth (Dwane) Howard of Corvallis, Delbert (Maria) Zehrung of Colorado Springs, Colorado, and Joseph (Elizabeth) Zehrung of La Pine; 16 grandchildren and 27 great-grandchildren.

NEWS OF RECORD

DEATHS

James K. "Ken" Jones: 87, of Caldwell, Idaho, and formerly of Baker City, died March 23, 2020, at Caldwell. Coles Tribute Center is in charge of arrangements. To light a candle in memory of Ken, go to www.colestributecenter.com

Caroline "Carrie" Hall: 83, of La Grande, died March 23,

2020, at her residence in the Grande Ronde Retirement Residence in La Grande. Arrangements are under the direction of Gray's West & Co. Pioneer Chapel in Baker City. Service details will be announced later. Memorial contributions can be made to the charity of one's choice through Gray's West & Co. Pioneer Chapel, 1500 Dewey Ave., Baker City, OR 97814. TO

light a candle in memory of Carrie, or to leave a condolence for her family, go to www.grayswestco.com

FUNERALS PENDING

Ron Buxton: Due to the coronavirus situation, Ron's family has decided to postpone the memorial service until June. Should friends and family desire, memorial contributions may be

made to the family to help with his final expenses. To leave an online condolence for the family of Ron, go to www.grayswestco.com

Ray Zaccone: His memorial service scheduled for Friday, March 27, has been postponed and will be rescheduled. The family suggests memorial contributions in Ray's name to the 173rd Airborne Brigade, or VFW Post No. 7847, through Tami's Pine Valley Funeral Home & Cremation Services. Online condolences may be made at www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com

POLICE LOG

Baker City Police Arrests, citations
FIRST-DEGREE CRIMINAL TRESPASSING, SECOND-DEGREE CRIMINAL MISCHIEF: James Edward Grove, 42, 3920 G St., 6:22 a.m. Tuesday in the 2600 block of 12th Street; jailed.

FAILURE TO APPEAR (Union County warrants): Raeganne Lynn Terrell, 45, 2390 G St., 6:22 a.m. Tuesday in the 2600 block of 12th Street; cited and released.

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